

Testimony of Gregory B. Allard,
Chairman, CT EMS Advisory Board

Committee on Children

Tuesday, March 9, 2021

Senator Anwar, Representative Lineman and other distinguished members of the Committee on Children:

My name is Greg Allard, my testimony today is related to Committee Bill No. 2, An Act Concerning Social Equity and the Health, Safety and Education of Children.

Sections 1 and 9 have language pertaining to Emergency Medical Services (EMS).

The language here is duplicative in that, through recent legislation, EMS is already required to receive Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) training. This is in addition to the training we receive as part of the National curriculum standards for EMS.

EMS is already challenged with recruitment and high turnover rates. Continuing to add educational requirements, the harder and more inaccessible the certification and licensure can become for the limited number of people looking to enter our profession.

It is for these reasons I write testimony in opposition of Committee Bill No. 2.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my testimony. I would welcome the opportunity to discuss this further with any member of the committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Gregory B. Allard
Chairman, Connecticut EMS Advisory Board